AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated by the following claim listing.

Claim Listing:

1. (currently amended): A ~~computer-implemented method~~ system comprising:

means for defining a set of reduced regular expressions for particular patterns in strings, wherein the set of reduced regular expressions has less expressiveness than a set of regular expressions; and

means for learning, from a training set, a knowledge base that uses the reduced regular expressions to resolve ambiguity based upon the strings in which the ambiguity occurs, wherein the learning means is configured to perform ~~includes~~ transformation sequence learning to create a set of rules that use the reduced regular expressions to resolve ambiguity based upon the strings in which the ambiguity occurs.

2. (currently amended): A ~~computer-implemented method~~ system as recited in claim 1, wherein the set of reduced regular expressions are defined over a finite alphabet Σ, wherein the alphabet is a union of multiple sets of distinct classes.

3. (currently amended): A ~~computer-implemented method~~ system as recited in claim 1, wherein the training set comprises a labeled corpus.

4. (currently amended). A ~~computer-implemented method~~ system as recited in claim 1, wherein the set of reduced regular expressions specify types of patterns that are allowed to be explored when learning from the training set.

5. (currently amended): A ~~computer-implemented method~~ system as recited in claim 1, wherein the learning means includes means for applying a set of very reduced regular expressions that are a proper subset of the reduced regular expressions.

6. (currently amended): A ~~computer-implemented method~~ system ~~having computer-executable instructions that, when executed on a processor, perform a method~~ comprising:

means for defining a set of reduced regular expressions for particular patterns in strings, wherein the set of reduced regular expressions has less expressiveness than a set of regular expressions; and

means for learning, from a training set, a knowledge base that uses the reduced regular expressions to resolve ambiguity based upon the strings in which the ambiguity occurs, wherein the set of reduced regular expressions specify types of patterns that are allowed to be explored when learning from the training set.

7. (currently amended): A ~~computer-readable medium~~ system as recited in claim 6, wherein the set of reduced regular expressions are defined over a finite alphabet Σ, wherein the alphabet is a union of multiple sets of distinct classes.

8. (currently amended): A ~~computer-implemented method~~ system as recited in claim 6, wherein the training set comprises a labeled corpus.

9. (currently amended): A ~~computer-implemented method~~ system as recited in claim 6, wherein the learning means comprises means for transformation sequence learning to create a set of rules that use the reduced regular expressions to resolve ambiguity based upon the strings in which the ambiguity occurs.

10. (currently amended): A ~~computer-implemented method~~ system as recited in claim 6, wherein the learning means includes means for applying a set of very reduced regular expressions that are a proper subset of the reduced regular expressions.

11. (currently amended): A ~~computer-implemented method~~ system comprising:

means for receiving a string with an ambiguity site;

means for applying reduced regular expressions to describe a pattern in the string, wherein the reduced regular expressions:

are included in a knowledge base that is learned from a training set;

have less expressiveness than regular expressions; and

specify types of patterns that are allowed to be explored when the knowledge base is learned; and

selecting one of the reduced regular expressions to resolve the ambiguity site.

12. (currently amended): A ~~computer-implemented method~~ system as recited in claim 11, wherein the applying means is configured to ~~includes applying~~ apply a set of very reduced regular expressions that are a proper subset of the reduced regular expressions.

13. (currently amended): A ~~computer-implemented method~~ system comprising means for:

receiving a string with an ambiguity site;

applying reduced regular expressions to describe a pattern in the string, wherein:

the applying includes applying a set of very reduced regular expressions that are a proper subset of the reduced regular expressions; and

the reduced regular expressions have less expressiveness than regular expressions; and

selecting one of the reduced regular expressions to resolve the ambiguity site.

14. (currently amended): A ~~computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed on a processor, perform a method~~ system comprising:

means for receiving a string with an ambiguity site;

means for applying reduced regular expressions to describe a pattern in the string, wherein the reduced regular expressions:

~~the reduced regular expressions~~ are included in a knowledge base that is learned from a training set;

have less expressiveness than regular expressions; and

~~the reduced regular expressions~~ specify types of patterns that are allowed to be explored when the knowledge base is learned; and

means for selecting one of the reduced regular expressions to resolve the ambiguity site.

15. (currently amended): A ~~computer readable medium~~ system as recited in claim 14, wherein the applying means is configured to apply ~~includes applying~~ a set of very reduced regular expressions that are a proper subset of the reduced regular expressions.

16. (currently amended): A ~~computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computer to~~ system comprising:

means for reading ~~read~~ a training set;

means for constructing ~~construct~~ a graph having a root node that contains a primary position set of the training set and multiple paths from the root node to secondary nodes that represents a reduced regular expression that has less expressiveness than a regular expression, the secondary node containing a secondary position set to which the reduced regular expression maps;

means for scoring ~~score~~ the secondary nodes to identify a particular secondary node; and

means for identifying ~~identify~~ the reduced regular expression that maps the path from the root node to the particular secondary node.

17. (currently amended): A training system comprising:

a memory to store a training set;

a processing unit; and

means ~~a disambiguation trainer~~, executable on the processing unit, ~~to~~ for:

defining ~~define~~ a set of reduced regular expressions for particular patterns in strings of the training set, wherein the set of reduced regular expressions has less expressiveness than a set of regular expressions; and

learning ~~learn~~ a knowledge base that uses the reduced regular expressions to describe the strings wherein the reduced regular expressions specify types of patterns that are allowed to be explored when the knowledge base is learned from the training set.

18. (original): A training system as recited in claim 17, wherein the training set comprises a labeled corpus.

19. (original): A training system as recited in claim 17, wherein the disambiguator trainer employs transformation sequence learning to create a set of rules that use the reduced regular expressions to describe the strings.

20. (currently amended): A system comprising:

a memory to store a knowledge base that uses reduced regular expressions to resolve ambiguity based upon strings in which the ambiguity occurs, wherein:

the knowledge base is learned from a training set using the reduced regular expressions[[,]];

the reduced regular expressions specify types of patterns that are allowed to be explored when the knowledge base is learned; and

the reduced regular expressions have less expressiveness than regular expressions;

a processing unit; and

means ~~a disambiguator~~, executable on the processing unit, ~~to~~ for:

receiving ~~receive~~ a string with an ambiguity site; and

applying ~~apply~~ a reduced regular expression from the knowledge base that describes a pattern in the string to resolve the ambiguity site.